CLAIMS

1.   A data division method for dividing original data into
as many divided data as a desired number of division by
5   using a prescribed processing unit bit length, comprising
the steps of:
        generating a plurality of original partial data by
dividing the original data by the prescribed processing
unit bit length;
10   generating a plurality of random number partial data
each having a length equal to the prescribed processing
unit bit length, from a random number having a length less
than or equal to a bit length of the original data, in
correspondence to the plurality of original partial data;
15   generating a plurality of divided partial data that
constitute each divided data by using exclusive OR
calculation of the original partial data and the random
number partial data, each divided partial data having a
length equal to the prescribed processing unit bit length;
20   and
        generating the divided data in the desired number of
division from the plurality of divided partial data, such
that the original data cannot be ascertained from any one
divided data alone but the original data can be recovered
25   from a prescribed number of the divided data among
generated divided data.

2.   The data division method of claim 1, wherein the
original partial data and the random number partial data
30   are generated as many as the desired number of division
minus one.

3.   The data division method of claim 1, wherein the
divided data include one or more divided data formed by a
35   random number alone, and one or more divided data formed by

the divided partial data generated by the exclusive OR calculation of one or more original partial data and one or more random number partial data.

5   4.   The data division method of claim 3, wherein the one divided data formed by a random number alone is formed by repeating a random number with an arbitrarily determined length.

10   5.   The data division method of claim 3, wherein the one divided data formed by a random number alone is formed by a pseudo-random number generated from information of a prescribed length according to a pseudo-random number generation algorithm.

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6.   The data division method of claim 1, wherein the divided data include two or more divided data formed by the divided partial data generated by the exclusive OR calculation of one or more original partial data and one or

20   more random number partial data.

7.   The data division method of claim 1, wherein when the original data, the random number, the divided data, the desired number of division and the processing unit bit

25   length are denoted as S, R, D, n and b, respectively, variables i (= 1 to n) and j (= 1 to n-1) are used as variables, each one of (n-1) sets of the original partial data, (n-1) sets of the random number partial data, n sets of the divided data D, and (n-1) sets of divided partial

30   data of each divided data are denoted as S(j), R(j), D(j), and D(i,j), respectively, each original partial data S(j) is generated as b bits of data from b×(j-1)+1-th bit of the original data S while changing a variable j from 1 to n-1, U[n,n] is an n×n matrix with u(i,j) indicating a value of

35   i-th row and j-th column given by:

$$u(i,j) = 1 \text{ when } i+j \leq n+1$$
$$u(i,j) = 0 \text{ when } i+j > n+1$$

5    $P[n,n]$ is an $n \times n$ matrix with $p(i,j)$ indicating a value of
i-th row and j-th column given by:

$$p(i,j) = 1 \text{ when } j = i+1$$
$$p(i,j) = 1 \text{ when } i = 1, j = n$$
10       $p(i,j) = 0 \text{ otherwise}$

$c(j,i,k)$ is defined as a value of i-th row and k-th column
of an $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix $U[n-1,n-1] \times P[n-1,n-1]^{\wedge}(j-1)$, where
$U[n-1,n-1] \times P[n-1,n-1]^{\wedge}(j-1)$ denotes a product of a matrix
15   $U[n-1,n-1]$ and $(j-1)$ sets of a matrix $\times P[n-1,n-1]$, and
$Q(j,i,k)$ is defined as $Q(j,i,k) = R(k)$ when $c(j,i,k) = 1$
and $Q(j,i,k) = 0$ when $c(j,i,k) = 0$,
        each divided partial data $D(i,j)$ is generated by:

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$$D(i,j) = S(j) * \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} Q(j,i,k) \right) \text{ when } i < n$$

$$D(i,j) = R(j) \text{ when } i = n$$

while changing a variable i from 1 to n and changing a
25   variable j from 1 to n-1 for each variable i, where

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} Q(j,i,k) = Q(j,i,1) * Q(j,i,2) * \cdots * Q(j,i,n-1)$$

and * denotes the exclusive OR calculation.
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8.   The data division method of claim 1, wherein each
divided data is generated such that a random number
component cannot be eliminated by carrying out calculation
among the divided partial data that constitute the each
35   divided data.

9.   The data division method of claim 8, wherein each
divided data is generated by first generating the plurality
of divided partial data that constitute each divided data
5 by using a prescribed definition formula formed by the
exclusive OR calculation of the original partial data and
the random number partial data, and then interchanging one
divided partial data and another divided partial data among
the divided partial data that constitute each divided data.
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10.   The data division method of claim 8, wherein each
divided data is generated by first generating the plurality
of divided partial data $D(i,j)$ that constitute each divided
data $D(i)$ by using a prescribed definition formula formed
15 by the exclusive OR calculation of the original partial
data and the random number partial data, and then removing
a j-th random number partial data $R(j)$ from $D(i,j)$ with a
value of i in a range of $n-1 > i > 0$, where n is the
desired number of division, $j = (n-1) \times m+1$, and $m \geq 0$ is an
20 arbitrary integer.

11.   A data division device for dividing original data into
as many divided data as a desired number of division by
using a prescribed processing unit bit length, comprising:
25   an original partial data generation unit configured to
generate a plurality of original partial data by dividing
the original data by the prescribed processing unit bit
length;
          a random number generation unit configured to generate
30 a plurality of random number partial data each having a
length equal to the prescribed processing unit bit length,
from a random number having a length less than or equal to
a bit length of the original data, in correspondence to the
plurality of original partial data;
35   a divided partial data generation unit configured to

generate a plurality of divided partial data that
constitute each divided data by using exclusive OR
calculation of the original partial data and the random
number partial data, each divided partial data having a
5   length equal to the prescribed processing unit bit length;
and

a divided data generation unit configured to generate
the divided data in the desired number of division from the
plurality of divided partial data, such that the original
10 data cannot be ascertained from any one divided data alone
but the original data can be recovered from a prescribed
number of the divided data among generated divided data.

12.   A computer program product for causing a computer to
15 function as a data division device for dividing original
data into as many divided data as a desired number of
division by using a prescribed processing unit bit length,
the computer program product comprising:
a first computer program code for causing the computer
20 to generate a plurality of original partial data by
dividing the original data by the prescribed processing
unit bit length;
a second computer program code for causing the
computer to generate a plurality of random number partial
25 data each having a length equal to the prescribed
processing unit bit length, from a random number having a
length less than or equal to a bit length of the original
data,in correspondence to the plurality of original partial
data;
30   a third computer program code for causing the computer
to generate a plurality of divided partial data that
constitute each divided data by using exclusive OR
calculation of the original partial data and the random
number partial data, each divided partial data having a
35 length equal to the prescribed processing unit bit length;

and

a fourth computer program code for causing the
computer to generate the divided data in the desired number
of division from the plurality of divided partial data,
5   such that the original data cannot be ascertained from any
one divided data alone but the original data can be
recovered from a prescribed number of the divided data
among generated divided data.

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